



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

401-02B

Bureau of Nonpoint Pollution Control

Division of Water Quality

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[http://www.state.nj.us/dep/dwq/bnpc\\_home.htm](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/dwq/bnpc_home.htm)

August 31, 2011

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
*Governor*

KIM GUADAGNO  
*Lt. Governor*

BOB MARTIN  
*Commissioner*

Derek Berg  
200 Enterprise Drive  
Scarborough, ME 04074

Re: MTD Laboratory Test Certification for the Vortechs Stormwater Treatment System by  
CONTECH Construction Products, Inc.

**Effective Date: September 1, 2011**

**Expiration Date: September 1, 2013**

**TSS Removal Rate: 50%**

Dear Mr. Berg:

The Stormwater Management Rules at N.J.A.C. 7:8 allow the use of manufactured treatment devices (MTDs) for compliance with the design and performance standards provided that the pollutant removal rates have been verified by New Jersey Corporation for Advanced Technology, NJCAT, and certified by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP).

The certification process was revised through the "Transition for Manufactured Treatment Devices," dated July 15, 2011. NJDEP has determined that Vortechs Stormwater Treatment System by CONTECH Construction Products, Inc. is consistent with the criteria under *A. Manufactured Treatment Devices with Interim Certifications*. Therefore, **NJDEP certifies the use of the Vortechs Stormwater Treatment System by CONTECH Construction Products, Inc. with a 50% TSS removal rate, provided that the project design is consistent with the following conditions:**

1. The model selected for the project design must be sized in accordance with Table 1 and based on the peak flow of the New Jersey Water Quality Design Storm as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:8-5.

2. The Vortechs Stormwater Treatment System can only be used off-line. Any flow above the New Jersey Water Quality Design Storm must utilize an external bypass around the system.
3. A hydrodynamic separator, such as the Vortechs Stormwater Treatment System, cannot be used in series with another hydrodynamic separator to achieve an enhanced removal rate for total suspended solids (TSS) removal under N.J.A.C. 7:8-5.5.
4. The maintenance plan for the sites using this device shall incorporate at a minimum, the maintenance requirements for the Vortechs Stormwater Treatment System, attached.

**Table 1**

Vortechs System Model	Grit Chamber Radius (ft)	Grit Chamber Area (ft <sup>2</sup> )	Design Flow Rate (cfs)
1000	1.5	7.1	0.63
2000	2.0	12.6	1.12
3000	2.5	19.6	1.75
4000	3.0	28.3	2.5
5000	3.5	38.5	3.4
7000	4.0	50.3	4.5
9000	4.5	63.6	5.7
11000	5.0	78.5	7.0
16000	6.0	113.1	10.1

In addition to the attached, any project with a Stormwater BMP subject to the Stormwater Management Rules, N.J.A.C. 7:8, must include a detailed maintenance plan. The detailed maintenance plan must include all of the items identified in Stormwater Management Rules, N.J.A.C. 7:8-5.8. Such items include, but are not limited to, the list of inspection and maintenance equipment and tools, specific corrective and preventative maintenance tasks, indication of problems in the system, and training of maintenance personnel. Additional information can be found in Chapter 8: Maintenance of the New Jersey Stormwater Best Management Manual.

NJDEP anticipates proposing further adjustments to this process through the readoption of the Stormwater Management Rules. Additional information regarding the implementation of the Stormwater Management Rules N.J.A.C. 7:8 are available at [www.njstormwater.org](http://www.njstormwater.org). If you have any questions regarding the above information, please contact Ms. Sandra Blick of my office at (609) 633-7021.

Sincerely,



Ed Frankel, P.P., Acting Bureau Chief  
Bureau of Nonpoint Pollution Control

C: Richard S. Magee, NJCAT  
Chron file

## Vortechs® Maintenance

The Vortechs system should be inspected at regular intervals and maintained when necessary to ensure optimum performance. The rate at which the system collects pollutants will depend more heavily on site activities than the size of the unit, e.g., unstable soils or heavy winter sanding will cause the swirl chamber to fill more quickly but regular sweeping will slow accumulation.

### Inspection

Inspection is the key to effective maintenance and is easily performed. Pollutant deposition and transport may vary from year to year and regular inspections will help ensure that the system is cleaned out at the appropriate time. Inspections should be performed twice per year (i.e. spring and fall) however more frequent inspections may be necessary in equipment washdown areas and in climates where winter sanding operations may lead to rapid accumulations. It is useful and often required as part of a permit to keep a record of each inspection. A simple inspection and maintenance log form for doing so is provided on the following page, and is also available on [contechstormwater.com](http://contechstormwater.com).

The Vortechs system should be cleaned when inspection reveals that the sediment depth has accumulated to within 12 to 18 inches (300 to 450 mm) of the dry-weather water surface elevation. This determination can be made by taking two measurements with a stadia rod or similar measuring device; one measurement from the manhole opening to the top of the sediment pile and the other from the manhole opening to the water surface. Note: To avoid underestimating the volume of sediment in the chamber, the measuring device must be carefully lowered to the top of the sediment pile. Finer, silty particles at the top of the pile typically offer less resistance to the end of the rod than larger particles toward the bottom of the pile.

### Cleaning

Cleaning of the Vortechs system should be done during dry weather conditions when no flow is entering the system. Clean-out of the Vortechs system with a vacuum truck is generally the most effective and convenient method of excavating pollutants from the system. If such a truck is not available, a "clamshell" grab may be used, but it is difficult to remove all accumulated pollutants using a "clamshell".

In installations where the risk of petroleum spills is small, liquid contaminants may not accumulate as quickly as sediment. However, an oil or gasoline spill should be cleaned out immediately. Motor oil and other hydrocarbons that accumulate on a more routine basis should be removed when an appreciable layer has been captured. To remove these pollutants, it may be preferable to use adsorbent pads to solidify the oil since these pads are usually much easier to remove from the unit individually and less expensive to dispose of than the oil/water emulsion that may be created by vacuuming the oily layer. Floating trash can be netted out if you wish to separate it from the other pollutants.

Cleaning of a Vortechs system is typically done by inserting a vacuum hose into the swirl chamber and evacuating this chamber of water and pollutants. As water is evacuated, the water level outside of the swirl chamber will drop to a level roughly equal to the crest of the lower aperture of the swirl chamber. The water outside the swirl chamber should remain

near this level throughout pumping as the bottom and sides of the swirl chamber are sealed to the tank floor and walls. This "water lock" feature prevents water from migrating into the swirl chamber, exposing the bottom of the baffle wall and creating excess pump-out volume. Floating pollutants will decant into the swirl chamber as the water level is drawn down. This allows most floating material to be withdrawn from the same access point above the swirl chamber. Floating material that does not decant into the swirl chamber during draw down should be skimmed from the baffle chamber. If maintenance is not performed as recommended, sediment may accumulate outside the swirl chamber. If this is the case, it may be necessary to pump out other chambers. It is advisable to check for sediment accumulation in all chambers during inspection and maintenance.

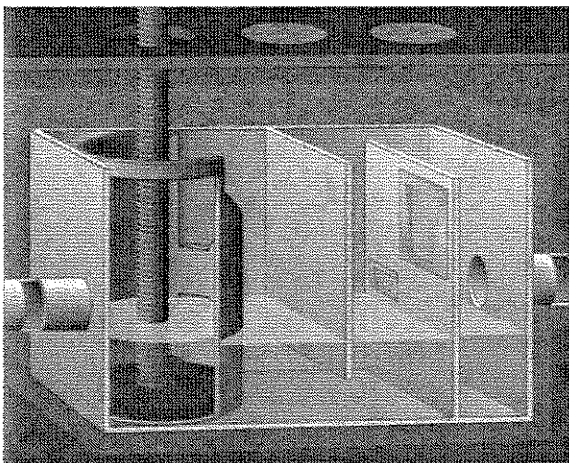
These maintenance recommendations apply to all Vortechs systems with the following exceptions:

1. It is strongly recommended that when cleaning systems larger than the Model 16000 the baffle chamber be drawn down to depth of three feet prior to beginning clean-out of the swirl chamber. Drawing down this chamber prior to the swirl chamber reduces adverse structural forces pushing upstream on the swirl chamber once that chamber is empty.
2. Entry into a Vortechs system is generally not required as cleaning can be done from the ground surface. However, if manned entry into a system is required the entire system should be evacuated of water prior to entry regardless of the system size.

Manhole covers should be securely seated following cleaning activities to prevent leakage of runoff into the system from above and also to ensure proper safety precautions. If anyone physically enters the unit, Confined Space Entry procedures need to be followed.

Disposal of all material removed from the Vortechs system should be done in accordance with local regulations. In many locations, disposal of evacuated sediments may be handled in the same manner as disposal of sediments removed from catch basins or deep sump manholes. Check your local regulations for specific requirements on disposal.

For assistance with maintaining your Vortechs system, contact us regarding the CONTECH Maintenance Compliance Certification Program.



## Vortechs Inspection & Maintenance Log

Vortech Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]

1. The water depth to sediment is determined by taking two measurements with a stadia rod: one measurement from the manhole opening to the top of the sediment pile and the other from the manhole opening to the water surface. If the difference between these measurements is less than eighteen inches the system should be cleaned out. **Note: To avoid underestimating the volume of sediment in the chamber, the measuring device must be carefully lowered to the top of the sediment pile.**
2. For optimum performance, the system should be cleaned out when the floating hydrocarbon layer accumulates to an appreciable thickness. In the event of an oil spill, the system should be cleaned immediately.